

RESOLUTION NUMBER 45
HONORING CHRIS STEPHENS

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this honorable Board of Aldermen of the many accomplishments of Professor Chris Stephens; and

WHEREAS, Professor Stephens was at St. Louis Community College, Florissant Valley where he served as the coordinator for the Italian Studies Program; and

WHEREAS, in this capacity Professor Stephens helped over 450 students developed an appreciation for Italian culture and language with many of them traveling to Italy to participate in a study aboard program; and

WHEREAS, Professor Stephens for many years has been active in the Italian community of St. Louis and currently serves as the President of the Italian Club of St. Louis, Vice President of the Federation of Italian American Organizations and Vice President of Ciao St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, the Italian monarch, the House of Savoy, facilitated Benito Mussolini and the Fascists in Italy assume power who later led Italy into the Second World War; and

WHEREAS, Professor Stephens has taught that the Second World War brought misery and destruction to Italy and in 1946, after the war, the Italian Parliament decided to hold a plebiscite to determine if Italy would remain a Kingdom or become a Democratic Republic; and

WHEREAS, this plebiscite was held on June 2, 1946 at which time the voters of Italy elected to banish the House of Savoy and establish the Italian Republic; and

WHEREAS, from this vote of the people the Republic of Italy was born on June 2nd, has been a pillar of democracy since its inception and it has been one of the closest ally of the United States for the past 73 years; and

WHEREAS, Professor Stephens is married to his wife, Amy, and they have two children, Teresa and Gino; and

WHEREAS, Professor Stephens co-hosts the Ciao Italian radio program in St. Louis and has received numerous awards from Italian American organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Italia America Bocce Club will host a banquet in honor of Italian Republic Day on June 1, 2019 and Professor Chris Stephens will honored at this banquet with Italian Republic Award.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to congratulate Professor Chris Stephens for his many contributions to our City as well as on his upcoming award. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to the honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 31st day of May, 2019 by:

Honorable Joseph Vaccaro, Alderman Ward 23
